

Photo © by Robert Benson  
courtesy CT Office of Tourism

## Preserving the Shoreline

After Tropical Storm Irene pummeled our state last year, damage on the shoreline was massive. We passed a coastal management bill that prepares for future hurricanes and rising sea levels, while at the same time protects property owners' rights.

Photo courtesy of Ellen M. Falbowski

## Infrastructure Upgrades Planned

This year state bonding will help overhaul the bridge carrying Flat Rock Road over I-95 in Old Lyme and underwrite repairs at Fort Trumbull State Park in New London. Additional funds for the New London Homeless Hospitality Center will help it serve clients with acute medical or mental health conditions.

U.S. Navy photo by John Fields

## Save Our Submarine Base

The success of the Sub Base in Groton is critical to both our national security and our local economy. As part of the regional legislative delegation, I have worked to secure funds for improvements to the base, to enhance its military value and guard against closure. In April, two new training facilities and a state-of-the-art pier were completed.

Photo courtesy of Jayne Keedle,  
Waterford Patch

## Economic Development Funds Awarded

Lumachip Inc., a Waterford company and a leader in the solid-state lighting industry, received funding through the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund to purchase and install state-of-the-art LED semi-conductor equipment. This economic stimulus investment will allow them to expand capacity and hire 20 new employees.



I recently held a press conference at Jaypro Sports, a Waterford-based manufacturing company making good use of programs we created in jobs legislation enacted in the past year. It's particularly gratifying to see the results we envisioned benefit a close-to-home business and its new employees. A residual benefit of this success story is the infusion of capital into the local economy as those with new jobs begin circulating their new, reliable wages. Jaypro hired four new employees using STEP-Up, has been approved to receive tax credits and recently qualified for a state grant.



I was on hand a few weeks ago at the groundbreaking for the ISAAC charter school's new gymnasium in downtown New London. The Interdistrict School for Arts and Communication, or ISAAC, is a free, public middle school option for students in southeastern Connecticut. It enrolled close to 200 students from New London and a dozen neighboring towns. It's wonderful to see the school and its students flourishing.



Your State Senator

# Andrea Stillman

Representing the residents of  
East Lyme, Montville, New London,  
Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Salem & Waterford

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Listening to a longtime employee at Waterford-based manufacturer Jaypro Sports, a company making good use of state-sponsored jobs programs like STEP-Up to expand its business and its workforce.

# Your State Senator Andrea Stillman

## Resources

In addition to our work this session, last October we passed a historic, bipartisan Jobs Bill to help small businesses and workers by improving access to capital, job training and education. Below is a list of programs and contact information that could benefit you or someone you know.

- **Job Expansion Tax Credits** for small businesses: [www.decd.org](http://www.decd.org)
- **Small Business Express Package** to get funding for your small business: [www.decd.org](http://www.decd.org), or contact Michelle Lugo at 860-270-8052 or [michelle.lugo@ct.gov](mailto:michelle.lugo@ct.gov)
- **STEP-Up** (Subsidized Training & Employment Programs) provides worker training subsidies for small businesses and small manufacturers: contact Rina Bakalar at the Office for Workforce Competitiveness, 860-263-6523 or [rina.bakalar@ct.gov](mailto:rina.bakalar@ct.gov)
- **Connecticut Reemployment Portal** if you have recently lost a job and are looking for work: [www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/CTReP](http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/CTReP)
- **Job & Career Connection** for details on job and training programs: [www.ctjobandcareer.org](http://www.ctjobandcareer.org)

To learn more, visit: [www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs](http://www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs)



Listening to the concerns of small business owner Donna Brennan of the Ardon Boutique in Niantic.



I look over his shoulder as Governor Malloy signs the Education Reform bill into law.

## Education Reforms

My primary responsibility this session, as co-chair of the Education Committee, was to negotiate and deliver a comprehensive package of public education reforms. My colleagues and I worked with teachers, education advocates and the governor to pass a historic education reform plan. It provides interventions and innovative new strategies for high-need schools and support for children and families. It invests in communities and ensures high-quality teaching in the classroom. The new law provides:

- Funding for 1,000 new early childhood slots
- 20 new or expanded school-based health centers
- Kindergarten through third-grade reading programs
- Innovative approaches to teaching English Language Learners
- Increased funding for new and existing Family Resource Centers
- A fair and validated evaluation system that will help teachers improve
- Additional funding to school districts across the state

## A COMMITMENT TO CREATING JOBS

How do you improve on one of the most successful Connecticut job-creation and economic assistance plans ever devised?

You make it available to even more businesses and employees.

This year Senate Democrats expanded the Jobs Bill that we originally approved last October. That means:

- Extending incentives to thousands of additional small and medium size businesses which will lead to more state manufacturers hiring, buying, training and expanding;
- Additional job-training support for post-9/11 combat veterans through the expansion of our new state STEP-Up Program;
- A “Connecticut Made” marketing campaign that advertises and markets locally made products;
- And a stronger “First Five” business incentive program that gives preference to companies that move jobs from overseas back to Connecticut.

## Protecting Consumers, Fighting Price Gouging



Last year we saw some of the worst of what Mother Nature has to offer. Record-breaking snowfall and a powerful tropical storm wreaked havoc, causing downed trees, power outages and roof collapses. We came together as a state to clean up and repair homes after the storms.

In the Senate, we crafted legislation that extends protections from price-gouging to emergency lodging and weather-related services such as snow removal, flood abatement, clean-up and repairs.

The package we passed in the Senate went even further by protecting people against:

- Unnecessary collection of Social Security numbers;
- Deceptive automatic renewal language buried in the fine print of introductory offers; and,
- Telemarketers giving false or misleading identifying information.

Though not all of these bills passed in the House, they are important issues that the General Assembly should remain focused on next year.

## Relief at the Pump

This session I helped pass a comprehensive plan that caps the gross receipts tax by applying it to only the first \$3 a gallon when gas is sold on the wholesale market. The plan also strengthens protections against price gouging, cracks down on oil profiteering, and requires that savings from the cap get passed along to consumers.

We can't affect the price of oil on the international exchange—but we can give our Dept. of Consumer Protection and Attorney General tools to ensure large oil wholesalers don't take advantage of rising prices to unfairly gouge consumers.

